

proposed amended claim 1

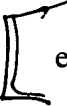
Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A process for the solid phase synthesis of peptides, which comprises:

(a) deprotecting a first amino acid linked to a solid phase resin by removing protective first chemical groups;

(b) activating chemical groups on a second amino acid to prepare the second amino acid for coupling with the first amino acid;

(c) coupling the activated second amino acid to the deprotected first amino acid to form a peptide from the first and second amino acids; ~~and~~

 ~~*(d) accelerating at least the deprotecting and coupling steps by applying microwave energy during the deprotecting, and coupling steps; and~~

(e) successively deprotecting, activating, and coupling a plurality of amino acids into a peptide in a single vessel without removing the peptide from the single vessel between cycles.